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I have been informed of Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. As I wrote when the idea of media consolidation was just being discussed, it was just a matter of time before this happened. This is a clear example of the dangers I was referring to with media consolidation.

It is disgusting that Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge to run a smear campaign. I believe he is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.